gens. Where the state deems the available data to be inadequate to set a standard, the standard is the detection limit. This is accomplished through a narrative standard that calls for all Class I and II ground waters to be "free from" all toxic chemicals.

New Jersey

New Jersey's classification system illustrates the application of a combination of health and environmentally based water quality standards to ground water. For most of the state, health-based standards for drinking water apply. However, in the Central Pine Barrens a fragile surface water ecosystem is fed by ground water discharge. Ground water standards were therefore required for this region that would protect surface water quality. Natural background ground water quality was determined through a monitoring program. Background levels of phosphate, nitrate, pH, and ammonia were then established as ambient quality standards for this class GW-1. These standards apply in addition to drinking water standards, which protect private well users in the Pine Barrens region. This is a unique example in which ambient standards were set to prevent any degradation of background water quality (see "Land Use Controls" section later in this chapter).

Connecticut

The Connecticut classification system, described earlier in this chapter, contrasts with the above systems in that only narrative water quality standards were adopted. The standards describe the beneficial use of each class and the general types of discharges that would be allowed. Numerical compliance standards are established for each facility in the course of the enforcement of the discharge permit program. Available criteria for drinking water quality, including federal advisories and local standards, are taken into consideration at that time. The state believes that the use of narrative standards streamlines the regulatory process by eliminating public standard-setting procedures. In addition, it provides the state with greater flexibility in its regulatory program.

California

Ground water quality standards in California are set by the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards, under statewide policies set by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). These standards are established to protect the beneficial uses designated in the Basin Plans. Specifically, the